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## MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT.

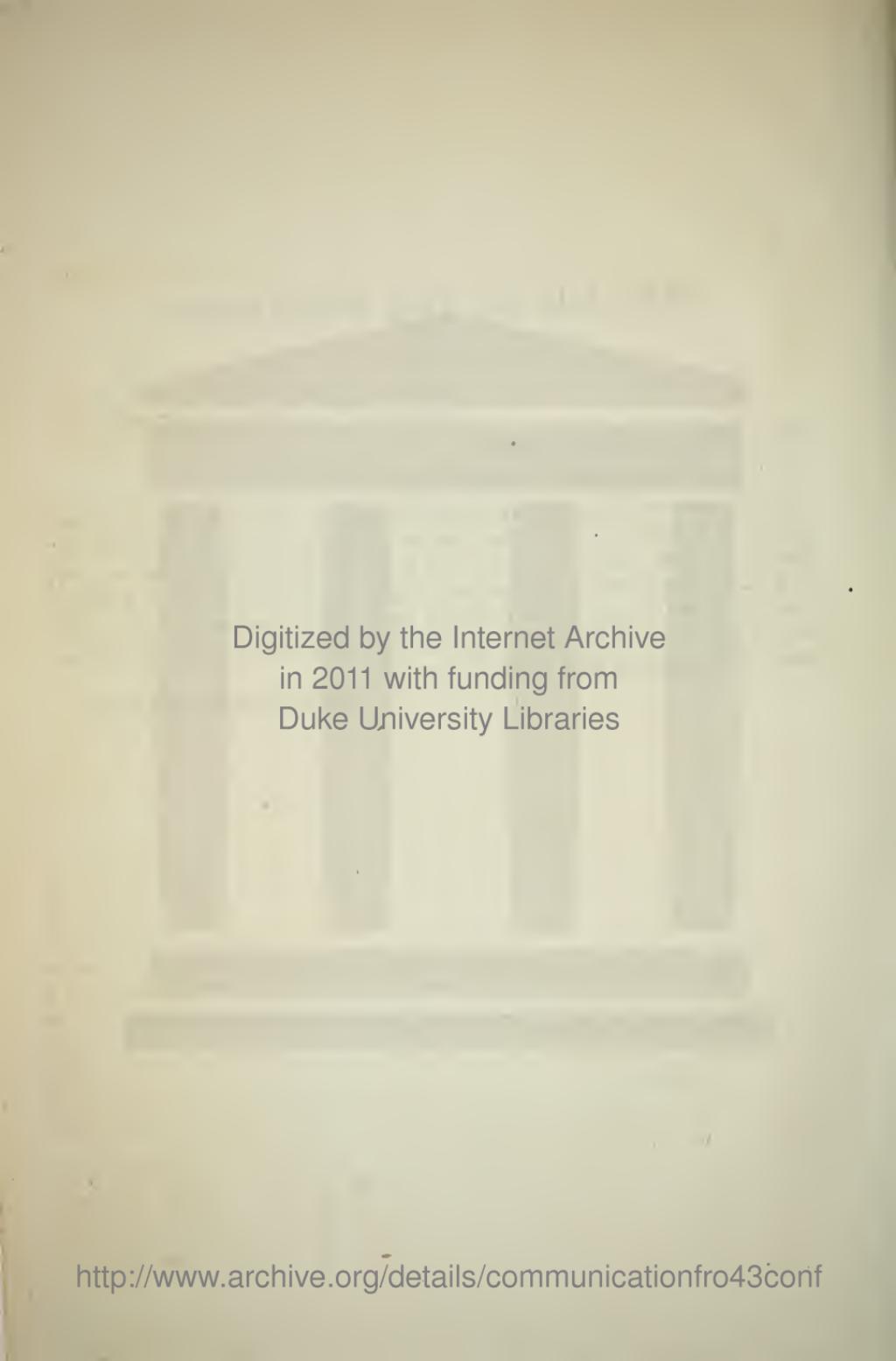
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RICHMOND, V.A., February 27, 1863.

*To the House of Representatives:*

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of War, covering a list of the civilian prisoners now in custody at the military prison at Salisbury, N. C., in further response to your resolution of the 5th instant, and invite attention to the recommendation in regard to a class of officers to be charged with the special duty of inquiring into the cases of prisoners arrested by military authority. I think such officers would be useful, they being selected for special qualifications, and invested with specific powers.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.



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## COMMUNICATION FROM THE SECRETARY OF WAR.

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CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA,  
War Department,

Richmond, Va., February 27, 1863. }

*To the President of the Confederate States :*

In answer to a resolution of the House of Representatives, I have the honor to enclose a list of the civilian prisoners now in custody in this city and at Salisbury, North Carolina, under military authority. No arrests have been made, at any time, by any specific order or direction of this Department. The persons arrested have been taken either by officers of the army commanding in the field, or by Provost Marshals, exercising authority of a similar nature, and the ground for arrest, is, or ought to be founded upon some necessity, or be justified as a proper precaution against an apparent danger. The Department has had commissioners to examine these persons, with directions "to discharge those against whom no well-grounded cause of suspicion exists of having violated a law or done an act hostile or injurious to the Confederate States."

The Department appointed, in November last, a commissioner to examine prisoners in the South-western Department, embracing a portion of Georgia, Alabama, and a portion of Mississippi. This commission found some obstructions in the performance of his duties, from the Provost Marshals, and some difficulty in obtaining reports from them. He resigned in the latter part of January, without making a report of the prisoners remaining in the department for which he was appointed. These commissioners have been found useful, and I recommend that the Department may be authorized to appoint them for the objects before mentioned, and that they be clothed with the authority of commissioners under the act of the Provisional Congress, No. 273, respecting commissioners appointed by the district courts.

In conclusion, I have to say, that under the examinations that have been made a large number of prisoners have been discharged, and none are retained unless there be a cause of suspicion, supported by testimony rendering it probable that the discharge of the prisoners would be prejudicial to the public interest.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES A. SEDDON,  
*Secretary of War..*

**LIST OF POLITICAL PRISONERS, made in obedience to call of Congress.**

No.	Names,	RESIDENCE.	OCCUPATION.	ARRESTED.	CHARGES PREFERRED.	PLACE OF IMPRISONMENT.
1	Ange, Samuel.....	North Carolina.	Farmer.	Nov. 9, 1862.	Disloyalty	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N.C.
2	Ange, J. B.....	"	"	"	"	"
3	Allen, A.....	"	"	"	"	"
4	Baek, B. T.....	"	"	March 19, '62.	"	"
5	Buck, John.....	"	"	"	"	"
6	Bell, Solomon.....	Virginia.	Shoemaker.	April 10, 1862.	Northerner man, strong union.	
7	Bailey, A.....	Richmond, Virginia.	Law Student.	Dec. 1, 1861.	English spy.	
8	Barnes, Edward.....	Poehantos Co., Va.	"	Nov. 20, 1861.	No charges preferred.	
9	Butler, J. W.....	Leesburg, Va.	Physician.	May 21,	Dangerous.	
10	Brown, J. L.....	Cumberland Co., Ten.	Distiller.	Nov. 5, "	Endeavoring to get to the enemy.	
11	Batty, George.....	Fentress Co., Tenn.	Farmer.	April 1, 1862.	Disloyalty.	
12	Billingsly, Geo. M.....	Clabornre "	Blacksmith.	Aug. 14, "	Aiding and supplying stock for enemy at Cumberland Gap.	
13	Baxley, H.....	"	Farmer.	" 12,	Trading with enemy.	
14	Bryant, Charles.....	Cock	"	Sept. 13,	Aiding and feeding stampedes to Ky.	
15	Beard L. M.....	Campbell "	"	Nov. 1,	Disloyalty.	
16	Bateman, J. W.....	Washington Co., N. C.	"	" 13,	"	
17	Bowman, William.....	Clabornre Co., Ten.	"	" 30,	"	
18	Beals, J. H.....	Green "	"	March 22, '62.	One of Fry's bridge burners in E. Ten.	
19	Cox, W. C.....	Jones Co., N. C.	Fisherman.	" 16,	Union man.	
20	Cheers, Peter.....	Kinston, N. C.	Shoemaker.	July 27,	Suspicious character—avowed unionist.	
21	Curtis, John.....	Beaufort, N. C.	Farmer.	Nov. 9,	Disloyalty.	
22	Cradlock, A.....	Washington Co., N. C.	Taylor.	"	"	
23	Collins, C. A. J.....	Gill Point, Va.	"	July 8,	Spy-giving information to enemy where our pickets were.	
24	Carter, W. F.....	Hancock Co., Ten.	Farmer.	Feb. 19,	Disloyalty.	
25	Cox, David.....	Green "	"	March 22,	One of Fry's com. bridge burners, in East Tennessee.	
26	Cogburn, N. J.....	"	"	"	One of Fry's com. bridge burners, in East Tennessee.	
27	Crabtree, W.....	Pentress "	Farmer.	April 1,	Disloyalty.	
28	Crabtree, C.....	" "	"	"	"	
29	Caton, Thomas.....	Cock "	Blacksmith.	" 13,	Aiding stampedes from Ten. to get to enemy.	
30	Cox, Eriegel.....	Lee Co., Va.	"	Aug. 25,	Anxious to show Federals our position.	
31	Clifton, William.....	Bledsoe Co., Ten.	Farmer.	Nov. 1,	Disloyalty.	
	Delaney, John.....	Kentucky.	"	Dec. 27, 1861.	No charges preferred.	

C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.			
Davis, J. W.....	Washington Co., N. C. Farmer.	Nov. 9, 1862. " " "	Disloyalty.
34 Davenport, A.....	" " "	March 22, '62. Clock Repair'r.	" " "
35 Darling, R. B.....	Green Co., Ten. Taborough, N. C.	March 22, Overseer.	" " "
36 Elliott, R. B.....	Green Co., Ten.	Sept. 16, " " " Spy—trading with enemy.	" " "
37 Elder, W. R.....	Claborne Co., Ten.	March 22, Farmer.	" " " One of Fry's co. bridge burn's. in E. Ten.
38 Fortner, Elia.....	Fayette Co., Va.	Aug. 12, 1862. " 4, 1861. " 12, 1862.	Disloyalty. Avowed unionist. Disloyalty.
39 Fellows, Otto.....	Claborne Co., Ten.	March 22, '62. Feb. 6, 1862.	One of Fry's bridge burn's. in E. Ten. Capt sohr. "Jenny Hunter," trying to get vessel and cargo to enemy. Disloyalty.
40 Fortner, Solomon.....	Mudson " " " New York.	Oct. 1, " " " Nov. 9, " " " " 13, " " " March 21, '62. " 22, " " " Nov. 16, " " " Dec. 20, " " " March 22, " " " " 4, " " " " 4, " " " " 4, " " " July 11, 1862. Sept. 8, " " " April 6, " " " Jan. 2, " " " Nov. 9, " " " " 4, " " " April 1, " " " Aug. 19, " " " Dec. 24, " " " April 1, " " " " 7, " " " Nov. 1, 1861. June 2, 1862. Dec. 15, 1861. Sept. 2, 1862. June 25, 1862. Nov. 9, " " " Feb. 28, " " " Nov. 9, 1862. March 22, '62.	One of Fry's co. bridge burn's. in E. Ten. Avowed unionist. Disloyalty. Avowed unionist. Disloyalty. Avowed unionist. Disloyalty. Avowed unionist. Disloyalty. Suspicioned of going to enemy U. man. Disloyalty. Associated with a band of marauders. Renegades, etc. Disloyalty—union man. Drunkenness, continually in jail, dang'rs. Avowed unionist. No charges preferred. Avowed unionist. Disloyalty. Avowed unionist. Disloyalty. Avowed unionist. Disloyalty.
41 Gahagan, N. B.....	Hazzard, Samuel.....	" " "	" " "
42 Hazzard, Samuel.....	Sailor.	" " "	" " "
43 Hatmaker, A.....	Campbell Co., Ten.	" " "	" " "
44 Hair, A.....	Washington Co., N. C.	" " "	" " "
45 Jackson, J. E.....	" " "	" " "	" " "
46 Jones, J.....	Hancock Co., Ten.	" " "	" " "
47 Jones, C.....	Green " " "	Carpenter.	" " "
48 Johnson, Andrew J.....	Kinston, N. C.	Farmer.	" " "
49 Kennedy, Thomas.....	Green Co., Ten.	Carpenter.	" " "
50 Kelly, D. II.....	" " "	Farmer.	" " "
51 Keller, A. W.....	" " "	" " "	" " "
52 Keller, William.....	" " "	" " "	" " "
53 King, J. W.....	Cumberland Co., Ten.	" " "	" " "
54 Key, J. W.....	Claborne " " "	" " "	" " "
55 Lathingshouse, Wm.....	Craven Co., N. C.	" " "	" " "
56 Leonard, Allen.....	Philadelphia, Pa.	Engraver.	" " "
57 Laund, W. W.....	Washington Co., N. C.	Farmer.	" " "
58 Leary, E. W.....	Martin Co., N. C.	Laborer.	" " "
59 Luper, William.....	Scott Co., Ten.	Farmer.	" " "
60 Ledger, D.....	Grainger Co., Ten.	" " "	" " "
61 Loftin, W. C.....	Craven Co., N. C.	" " "	" " "
62 Mereer, John.....	Jones " " "	" " "	" " "
63 Mereer, Louis.....	" " "	" " "	" " "
64 Marnes, B. F.....	Willimburg, Va.	Carpenter.	" " "
65 McClelland, John.....	Richmond, Va.	Sailor.	" " "
66 McGaha, A.....	Louloun Co., Va.	Blacksmith.	" " "
67 McDonald, T. C.....	New York.	" " "	" " "
68 Mercer, W. P.....	Jones Co., N. C.	Farmer.	" " "
69 Mason, Z. A.....	Washington Co., N. C.	Washington Co., N. C.	" " "
70 Maxwell, Witley.....	Western Virginia.	" " "	" " "
71 McNair, John.....	Washington Co., N. C.	" " "	" " "
72 McGee, Lemuel.....	Green Co., Ten.	" " "	" " "

## LIST OF PRISONERS—(Continued)

No.	Names.	RESIDENCE.	OCCUPATION.	ARRESTED.	CHARGES PREFERRED.	PLACE OF IMPRISONMENT.
73	Miller, David.....	Green Co., Tenn.	Fa mier.	July 14, 1862.	Goin to Ky., taken within enemy's lines	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
74	Miller, R. B.....	Lee Co., Va.	do	Aug. 13, "	Dishonesty.	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
75	Malicote, Calvyn.....	Campbell Co., Tenn.	do	Oct. 11, 1862.	do	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
76	Morrell, B. F.....	do	do	do	do	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
77	Miller, Jordan.....	do	do	Dee 1,	do	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
78	Moonechan, James.....	do	do	do	do	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
79	Mealing, John, Sr.....	Union Co., N. C.	do	Feb. 6, 1863.	Aiding, abetting & harboring deserters.	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
80	Nobles, Kinsey.....	J.nes do	do	March 16, 62.	Avowed unionist.	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
81	Perking, C. G.....	Goldborough, N. C.	Merchant.	April 10, 1862.	Union man.	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
82	Panocast, S. A.....	Hamilton Co., Va.	Farmer.	Nov. 10, 1861.	Dishonesty.	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
83	Pay. e. David.....	Blunt Co., Tenn.	do	July 5, 1862.	do	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
84	Poor, Edward.....	Knox do	Trader.	July 16, 1862.	Giving information to enemy.	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
85	Perkins, Richard.....	Whitley Co., Tenn.	Farmer.	Oct. 13, 1862.	Dishonesty.	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
86	Rich, J. W.....	Pennsylvania.	Engineer.	June 20, 1861.	do	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
87	Ryan, Geo. W.....	Wytheville, Va.	Blacksmith.	March 1, 1862.	do	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
88	Ryder, S. H.....	New York.	Tailor.	Oct. 11, 1862.	Trading with Yankees, and inducing negroes to go to Washington, D. C.	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
89	Rogers, N. R.....	Blunt Co., Tenn.	Farmer.	Sept. 10, 1862.	Bushwacker and renegade.	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
90	Rogers, W. P.....	do	do	do	do	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
91	Rowe, Alfred.....	Campbell Co., Tenn.	do	Nov. 1, 1862.	Dishonesty.	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
92	Rush, William.....	Hawkins Co., Tenn.	do	April 19,	do	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
93	Seeds, J. M.....	Kentucky.	Miss. R. Pilot.	Nov. 6 1861.	Dangerous man.	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
94	Sammons, J. R.....	Craven Co., N. C.	Farmer.	April 7, 1862.	Avowed unionist.	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
95	Smith, H. H.....	New York.	Printer.	Aug. 1, 1861.	Dangerous union man.	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
96	Smith, Samuel.....	do	Farmer.	May 3, 1862.	Dishonesty.	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
97	Scully, Daniel.....	Pendleton Co., Va.	Laborer.	Oct. 11, 1861.	Union man.	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
98	Swinth, W. M.....	Loudon do d*	Farmer.	Dec. 10, 1862.	do	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
99	Sheets, C. C.....	Winston Co., Ala.	Law Student.	Oct. 6, 1862.	Suspected of treasonable conduct.	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
100	Swanner, Eli.....	Beaufort Co., N. C.	Farmer.	Nov. 9, 1862.	Dishonesty.	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
101	Smith, James.....	Washington Co., N.C.	do	do	do	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
102	Spuel, A. A.....	do	do	do	do	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
103	Steph, John.....	Fenress Co., Tenn.	do	April 1,	do	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
104	Smith, Joseph.....	Cumberland Co., Tenn.	do	Sept. 8,	do	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
105	Spears, W. M.....	Hawkins do	do	July 17,	do	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
106	swain, J. W.....	jefferson do	do	Oct. 18,	do	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
107	Smith, Loudon Co., Va.	do	do	Dec. 18, 1862.	Avowed unionist.	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.
108	Smith, Thomas.....	Campbell Co., Tenn.	do	Nov. 1, 1862.	Dishonesty.	C. S. Military Prison, Salisbury, N. C.

109	Taylor, F.....	Craven Co., N. C.	Fisherman.	April 20, 1862.	Avowed unionist.
110	Thacher, Charles A.....	Green Co., Va.	Physician.	March 28, '62.	do
111	Thornhill, Alexander.....	Jefferson Co., Ten.	Farmer.	April 17, 1862.	Disloyalty.
112	Triplitt, William.....	Green Co., Ten.	do	March 22, '62.	One of Fry's co. bridge burn'r's in E. Ten.
113	Frat. Jam s.....	Fentress, Co., Ten.	do	April 1, 1862.	Disloyalty.
114	Tomj kin, E. A.....	Overtown Co., Ten.	do	April 1, do	Professes to be a federal soldier—no evidence of fact.
115	Tilburn, Michael.....	Lenoir Co., N. C.	do	Dec. 26, 1862.	Disloyalty.
116	Taylor, Moses.....	Jones Co., N. C.	do	July 20,	Avowed unionist.
117	Wesson, Wilson.....	Beaufort Co., N. C.	do	April 2,	do
118	Williams, Edward.....	Craven Co., N. C.	do	do	do
119	Winne, J. W.....	Washington, N. C.	Schoolteacher.	Nov. 9,	Disloyalty.
120	White, Baker.....	Edenton, N. C.	Waterman.	April 4,	Spy and traitor.
121	Wood, Isam.....	Davison Co., N. C.	Item. Preacher.	do	Treasonable conduct and practice, excepting slaves to insurrection.
122	Workman, William.....	Boono Co., Va.	Farmer.	Jan. 11,	do
123	Wilhight, E.....	Hardy Co., Va.	do	Sept. 30, 1861.	Avowed unionist.
124	Watson, G. H.....	Washington, N. C.	Laborer.	Nov. 9, 1862.	Disloyalty.
125	Walker, Horry.....	Green Co., Ten.	Carpenter.	March 22, '62.	One of Fry's co. bridge burn'r's in E. Ten.
126	Woolsey, G.....	Hawkins Co., Ten.	do	April 19, 1862.	Disloyalty.
127	Wright, Mitchell.....	Fentress Co., Ten.	Farmer.	do	Professes to be a federal soldier, no evidence of fact.
128	Wise man, C. W.....	Fentress Co., Ten.	do	Nov. 1,	Disloyalty.
129	Yount, Ephram.....	Campbell Co., Ten.	Printer.	April 19,	do
130	Walker, Emmet.....	Hawkins Co., Ten.	Farmer.	April 7,	do
131	Wiseman, C. W.....	Marion Co., Ten.	do	July 14,	Going to Ky., taken within enemy's lines
132	Yount, Ephram.....	Campbell Co., Ten.	do		

## TABULAR STATEMENT.

North Carolina.....	41
Virginia.....	19
Tennessee.....	60
Kentucky.....	2
New York.....	5
Pennsylvania.....	2
Bank.....	2

Total number of prisoners.....

131

H. McCOY, Captain commanding



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